

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0583_15

Senator Wright provided in writing.

Question

Direct Instruction - outcomes in remote primary schools

What research does the department have that shows improvements in student outcomes in remote Australian primary schools using Direct Instruction or Explicit Instruction?

Answer

Direct Instruction has been piloted at the Cape York Aboriginal Academy's three campuses, with success documented in the 2013 Evaluation of the Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy Initiative by the Australian Council for Education Research.

Professor Steve Dinham, Chair of Teacher Education at the University of Melbourne said "The research evidence is clear. In terms of measured effect sizes, feedback, remediation, and direct of explicit instruction are more effective in promoting student achievement than problem-based learning, inductive teaching, inquiry-based teaching and the like."¹

Additional research and reports that support Direct Instruction and Explicit Instruction, including in remote locations, include:

- 2005 *National Inquiry into the Teaching of Literacy* by Dr Ken Rowe
- 2009 *Visible Learning – A synthesis of Over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement* by Professor John Hattie
- 2014 Northern Territory review *A share in the future: Review of Indigenous Education in the Northern Territory* by Bruce Wilson

¹ Steve Dinham, May 2008 edition of *Teacher*, page 23